Determine the primary author’s purpose for each of the following article excerpts.


Empathy is the ability to share and understand the feelings, or emotions, of others. It is constructed of different parts, each of which is associated with its own brain network.

There are three different ways to think about empathy.

First, there is affective empathy. This is the ability to share the emotions of others. For example, someone watching a scary movie may feel scared when a character is scared.

Second, there is cognitive empathy. This is the ability to understand the feelings of others. A good example is a counselor who understands the emotions of people who they talk to but does not always share those emotions.

Finally, there is emotional regulation. This refers to the ability to control one’s emotions. For example, doctors need to control their emotions when operating on a patient.

Author’s Purpose for #1:


Dear kids who skip breakfast: Please stop! About a quarter of U.S. teens think the first meal of the day is unnecessary, studies show.

I live with a teenager. So I have heard your reasons. And I respect them, truly I do.

First of all, you are tired. I mean, really, really tired. Too tired to eat, in fact. You are growing like a weed, your homework and extracurricular activities are endless, and your sense of time is shifting—so you naturally stay up later. When you are so fatigued in the morning, the idea of eating breakfast does not sound good. You are not hungry, and some of you might actually feel nauseated.

Many of you follow the example set by your parents, who chug coffee and skip food, in the morning. It's not your fault; you thought they knew best. Others think you can stay at the same weight or lose weight by skipping breakfast.

I understand this reasoning: I was a teenager once. But could you please take a few minutes to hear me out? Skipping breakfast can cause you to gain weight, lower your test scores and develop heart disease. Yes, seriously.

Author’s Purpose for #2:
Angelina Jolie and daughter Shiloh are getting in touch with their wild side.

Jolie and her kids traveled to the African country of Namibia earlier this month to open the Shiloh Wildlife Sanctuary.

The Sanctuary, which cares for elephants and rhinos that have fallen victim to poaching or abuse, is located at the N/a’an ku sê Foundation.

The cause is special to Shiloh, 11, who was born in Namibia.

“Her face lit up when she saw the sanctuary for the first time,” a source tells People Magazine. “The name was a surprise to her and she was beaming. She and her brothers and sisters moved around very quietly as the newly rescued elephants were still settling in.”

Author’s Purpose
for #3: